

WE CLAIM:

1. A container with adjustable volume, comprising:

a base container with a floor panel and a roof panel,

a box-shaped expansion element that can be extended from the base container, and which includes a floor panel, a roof panel, an open side that is open to the base container, a front panel that is opposite the open side, and two side panels, and

a device with which the box-shaped expansion element can be lowered such that, once the expansion element has been extended, the floor panel of the expansion element and the base container are at the same height, and with which the expansion element can be raised such that, once the expansion element has been lowered, it can be reinserted into the base container,

wherein the roof panel of the box-shaped expansion element is designed such that it can be folded along a horizontal axis on an upper edge of the front panel of the expansion element.

2. The container according to claim 1, wherein the box-shaped expansion element is one of precisely two box-shaped expansion elements that can be extended in opposite directions out of the base container, and wherein the dimensions of the expansion elements are selected such that one expansion element can be inserted into the other expansion element.

3. The container according to claim 1, wherein the roof panel is attached by sealing elements to form a seal against adjacent surface elements of the container.

4. The container according to claim 1, and further comprising supplementary surface elements with which gaps between the side panels and the roof panel of the box-shaped expansion element, formed when the roof panel is folded up, can be closed off so that an inside space that is completely closed off from the outside is formed.

5. The container according to claim 4, wherein the supplementary surface elements are arranged such that they can be folded along an upper edge of at least one of the side panels.

6. The container according to claim 5, wherein friction seals are provided as sealing elements between the supplementary surface elements and the roof panel or the front panel.

7. The container according to claim 4, wherein the supplementary surface elements are arranged rigidly on the roof panel.

8. The container according to claim 7, wherein brush seals or friction seals are provided as sealing elements between the supplementary surface elements and the side panels.

9. The container according to claim 7, wherein permanently attached seals made of a flexible material are used as sealing elements between the supplementary surface element and the side panels.

10. The container according to claim 9, wherein at least one the permanently attached seals is stretched tightly when the roof panel is folded up and forms a fold when the roof panel is folded down or is a sealing cushion.

11. The container according to claim 1, wherein friction seals are provided as sealing elements between the roof panel and the base container.

12. The container according to claim 1, wherein permanently attached seals made of a flexible material are provided as sealing elements between the roof panel and the front panel.

13. The container according to claim 4, wherein the supplementary surface elements are single-shell or dual-shell elements.

14. The container according to claim 5, wherein the supplementary surface elements are single-shell or dual-shell elements.

15. The container according to claim 6, wherein the supplementary surface elements are single-shell or dual-shell elements.

16. The container according to claim 7, wherein the supplementary surface elements are single-shell or dual-shell elements.

17. The container according to claim 8, wherein the supplementary surface elements are single-shell or dual-shell elements.

18. The container according to claim 9, wherein the supplementary surface elements are single-shell or dual-shell elements.

19. The container according to claim 10, wherein the supplementary surface elements are single-shell or dual-shell elements.

20. The container according to claim 1, wherein the container is used as a workroom.

21. A process of enlarging main working and traffic areas of a container with adjustable volume including a base container with a floor panel and a roof panel, a box-shaped expansion element that can be extended from the base container, and which includes a floor panel, a roof panel, an open side that is open to the base container, a front panel that is opposite the open side, and two side panels, and a device with which the box-shaped expansion element can be lowered such that, once the expansion element has been extended, the floor panel of the expansion element and the base container are at the same height, and with which the expansion element can be raised such that, once the expansion element has been lowered, it can be reinserted into the base container, comprising:

folding the roof panel of the box-shaped expansion element along a horizontal axis on an upper edge of the front panel of the expansion element.